

Application No.: 10/671,289
Amendment and Response dated May 16, 2007
Reply to Final Office Action of March 5, 2007
Docket No.: 903-86 RCE
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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the subject application, and please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended): Method for printing a substrate with ink drops according to the "drop-on-demand" principle, which substrate is provided with a polymeric ink-receiving layer, using an ink jet printing device, the printhead of which is provided with a piezo element for generating ink drops, the method comprising the steps of supplying the substrate, generating ink drops and depositing the generated ink drops on the substrate, wherein the ink from which the ink drops are formed, has an ink composition which comprises a water-soluble dye, water, a lower alcohol and humectant, wherein the lower alcohol content is 5-30% by weight, [[and]] wherein the ink composition has a viscosity greater than 3 cP, and wherein the humectant to lower alcohol weight ratio is between 0.10 and 1.50.

Claim 2. (Original): Method according to claim 1, wherein the lower alcohol is selected from the group consisting of monohydric alcohols having 1-4 carbon atoms.

Claim 3. (Original): Method according to claim 1, wherein the lower alcohol comprises isopropanol.

Claim 4. (Original): Method according to claim 1, wherein the humectants comprise one or more polyhydric alcohols, polyethylene glycols, or polypropylene glycols.

Claim 5. (Canceled).

Claim 6. (Currently Amended): Method according to claim [[5]] 1, wherein the lower alcohol to water weight ratio is between 0.08 and 0.6.

Claim 7. (Original): Method according to claim 6, wherein the substrate comprises a polymeric ink-receiving layer made from a swelling polymer.

Claim 8. (Currently Amended): Ink composition, particularly suitable for the method according to one of the preceding claims, wherein the ink composition comprises a water-soluble dye, water, lower alcohol and humectant, the lower alcohol content thereof being 5-30% by weight, the lower alcohol to water weight ratio being between 0.08 and 0.6, [[and]] wherein the ink composition has a viscosity greater than 3 cP, and wherein the humectant to lower alcohol weight ratio is between 0.10 and 1.50.

Claim 9. (Canceled).

Claim 10. (Previously Presented): Method according to claim 1, wherein the ink composition consists essentially of dye, water, lower alcohol and humectant.

Claim 11. (Previously Presented): The ink composition according to claim 8, wherein the ink composition consists essentially of dye, water, lower alcohol and humectant.

Claim 12. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 10, wherein the ink composition further comprises an additive selected from the group of surfactants, bactericides and fungicides.

Claim 13. (Previously Presented) The ink composition according to claim 8, wherein the ink composition further comprises one or more additives selected from the group comprising surfactants, bactericides and fungicide.